replace the existing 11 B-737 aircraft operated by Alliance Air by leasing of equivalent number of A-319-100 aircraft.

Indian Airlines has floated a global tender for dry lease of upto eleven A-319 aircraft fitted with IAE or CFM engines. A-319 is a narrow body, twin engine jet aircraft with seating capacity of about 122 seats (114 in economy & 8 executive class).

The lease term desired in the tender notice for aircraft is 5 years or 3 years extendable by two years. The last date for the submission of the offers is 30th July, 2004.

Investigation in helicopter crashes

699. SHRI R.K. ANAND : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that serious lapses of omission by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) were traced in the investigation conducted in the helicopter crashes in Jammu and Kashmir and off the Mumbai coast last year; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken against DGCA to check recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL) :(a) The report, submitted by the Inspector of Accidents, in respect of accident to Government of Jammu and Kashmir's Bell-407 helicopter VT-FJK near Ganderbal, Srinagar, on 5.8.2003 has pointed out lapses on the part of pilot and operator. The Report is under consideration of the Government. As regards accident to M/s. Mesco Airlines's MI-172 helicopter VT-MAF at Mumbai High, on 11.8.2003, the report was submitted by Inspector of Accidents on 17.5.2004 which is presently under examination of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation.

(b) Action, if necessary, would be taken on acceptance of these reports by the Government.

CAT-3 Landing System at IGI Airport

700. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CAT-3 Landing System has been made fully operational at the Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi;